

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### Listing of Claims:

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1           1. (Currently amended) A method for providing a shared window for  
2   entering commands into a local computer system, wherein the shared window can  
3   be shared with a remote user who can input data into the shared window from a  
4   remote computer system subject to access control, the method comprising:  
5       receiving a command from the remote user on the remote computer  
6   system;  
7       wherein the command is directed toward the local computer system in  
8   order to operate the local computer system;  
9       passing the command through a filtering process;  
10      if the command passes the filtering process, executing the command on  
11   the local computer system;  
12      displaying the command on the shared window on the local computer  
13   system so that a local user can view the command; and  
14      allowing the command to be displayed on a remote copy of the shared  
15   window on the remote computer system, so that the remote user can view the  
16   command;  
17      ~~whereby~~ wherein permission to execute the command on the local  
18   computer system is granted on a per-command basis ~~by a~~ based on an approval  
19   received from a user of the local computer system.

1           2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein if the shared window is in an  
2   approval mode, the filtering process involves:

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3           allowing the local user of the local computer system to approve the  
4   command; and  
5           if the local user approves the command, allowing the command to pass the  
6   filtering process.

1           3. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising if the shared  
2   window is in a view-only mode, allowing no commands received from the remote  
3   user to pass the filtering process.

1           4. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising if the shared  
2   window is in an execute mode, allowing all commands received from the remote  
3   user to pass the filtering process.

1           5. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising if the shared  
2   window is in a safe command mode, allowing commands from a pre-specified list  
3   of safe commands to pass the filtering process.

1           6. (Original) The method of claim 5, further comprising, if the shared  
2   window is in a safe command mode and the command is not from the pre-  
3   specified list of safe commands:  
4           allowing the local user of the local computer system to approve the  
5   command; and  
6           if the local user approves the command, allowing the command to pass the  
7   filtering process.

1           7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein commands from different  
2   users appear in different colors on the shared window.

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1 8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein allowing the command to be  
2 displayed on the remote copy of the shared window on the remote computer  
3 system involves sending an update for the shared window from the local computer  
4 system to the remote computer system, wherein the update includes the command.

1 9. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving a  
2 second command from a second remote user on a second remote computer  
3 system.

1 10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the filtering process takes  
2 place on at least one of:  
3 the remote computer system;  
4 the local computer system; and  
5 a shared server that is separate from the remote computer system and the  
6 local computer system.

1 11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the command is in the form  
2 of character input.

1 12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the command is in the form  
2 of an action applied to a graphical user interface.

1 13. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing  
2 instructions that when executed by a computer cause the computer to perform a  
3 method for providing a shared window for entering commands into a local  
4 computer system, wherein the shared window can be shared with a remote user  
5 who can input data into the shared window from a remote computer system  
6 subject to access control, the method comprising:

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7 receiving a command from the remote user on the remote computer  
8 system;  
9 wherein the command is directed toward the local computer system in  
10 order to operate the local computer system;  
11 passing the command through a filtering process;  
12 if the command passes the filtering process, executing the command on  
13 the local computer system;  
14 displaying the command on the shared window on the local computer  
15 system so that a local user can view the command; and  
16 allowing the command to be displayed on a remote copy of the shared  
17 window on the remote computer system, so that the remote user can view the  
18 command;  
19 ~~whereby~~ wherein permission to execute the command on the local  
20 computer system is granted on a per-command basis ~~by a~~ based on an approval  
21 received from a user of the local computer system.

1 14. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,  
2 wherein if the shared window is in an approval mode, the filtering process  
3 involves:  
4 allowing the local user of the local computer system to approve the  
5 command; and  
6 if the local user approves the command, allowing the command to pass the  
7 filtering process.

1 15. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,  
2 wherein if the shared window is in a view-only mode, no commands received  
3 from the remote user are allowed to pass the filtering process.

1 16. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,  
2 wherein if the shared window is in an execute mode, all commands received from  
3 the remote user are allowed to pass the filtering process.

C/ 1 17. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,  
2 wherein if the shared window is in a safe command mode, commands from a pre-  
3 specified list of safe commands are allowed to pass the filtering process.

1 18. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 17,  
2 wherein if the shared window is in a safe command mode and the command is not  
3 from the pre-specified list of safe commands, the method further comprises:  
4 allowing the local user of the local computer system to approve the  
5 command; and  
6 if the local user approves the command, allowing the command to pass the  
7 filtering process.

1 19. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,  
2 wherein commands from different users appear in different colors on the shared  
3 window.

1 20. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,  
2 wherein allowing the command to be displayed on the remote copy of the shared  
3 window on the remote computer system involves sending an update for the shared  
4 window from the local computer system to the remote computer system, wherein  
5 the update includes the command.

1 21. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,  
2 wherein the method further comprises receiving a second command from a  
3 second remote user on a second remote computer system.

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1           22. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,  
2 wherein the filtering process takes place on at least one of:  
3           the remote computer system;  
4           the local computer system; and  
5           a shared server that is separate from the remote computer system and the  
6 local computer system.

1           23. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,  
2 wherein the command is in the form of character input.

1           24. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,  
2 wherein the command is in the form of an action applied to a graphical user  
3 interface.

1           25. (Currently amended) An apparatus that provides a shared window for  
2 entering commands into a local computer system, wherein the shared window can  
3 be shared with a remote user who can input data into the shared window from a  
4 remote computer system subject to access control, the apparatus comprising:  
5           a receiving mechanism that is configured to receive a command from the  
6 remote user on the remote computer system;  
7           wherein the command is directed toward the local computer system in  
8 order to operate the local computer system;  
9           a filtering mechanism that is configured to pass the command through a  
10 filtering process, and to execute the command on the local computer system if the  
11 command passes the filtering process; and  
12           a display mechanism that is configured to display the command on the  
13 shared window on the local computer system so that a local user can view the  
14 command;

C) 15 wherein the display mechanism is configured to allow the command to be  
16 displayed on a remote copy of the shared window on the remote computer system,  
17 so that the remote user can view the command;

18 ~~whereby~~ wherein permission to execute the command on the local  
19 computer system is granted on a per-command basis ~~by a~~ based on an approval  
20 received from a user of the local computer system.

1 26. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein if the shared window is  
2 in an approval mode, the filtering mechanism is configured to:

3 allow the local user of the local computer system to approve the  
4 command; and to

5 allow the command to pass the filtering process if the local user approves  
6 the command.

1 27. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein if the shared window is  
2 in a view-only mode, no commands received from the remote user are allowed to  
3 pass the filtering process.

1 28. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein if the shared window is  
2 in an execute mode, all commands received from the remote user are allowed to  
3 pass the filtering process.

1 29. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein if the shared window is  
2 in a safe command mode, commands from a pre-specified list of safe commands  
3 are allowed to pass the filtering process.

1 30. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 29, wherein if the  
2 shared window is in a safe command mode and the command is not from the pre-  
3 specified list of safe commands, the filtering mechanism is configured to:

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4 allow the local user of the local computer system to approve the  
5 command; and  
6 allow the command to pass the filtering process if the local user approves  
7 the command.

1 31. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the display mechanism  
2 is configured to display commands from different users in different colors on the  
3 shared window.

1 32. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the display mechanism  
2 is configured to send an update for the shared window from the local computer  
3 system to the remote computer system, wherein the update includes the command.

1 33. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the receiving  
2 mechanism is configured to receive a second command from a second remote user  
3 on a second remote computer system.

1 34. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the filtering mechanism  
2 is located on at least one of:  
3 the remote computer system;  
4 the local computer system; and  
5 a shared server that is separate from the remote computer system and the  
6 local computer system.

1 35. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the command is in the  
2 form of character input.

1 36. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the command is in the  
2 form of an action applied to a graphical user interface.